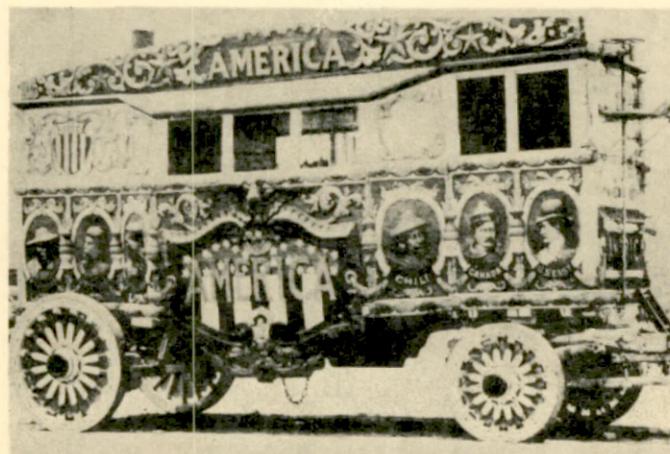


APRIL

1946

# THE BANDWAGON



TROUPELLING WITH THE DODE FISK GREAT COMBINED SHOWS  
by C.E.DUBLE

The season of 1910 I was with GENTRY BROS. FAMOUS SHOWS. I closed with this show in Chicago, Sat. Aug. 27 for reasons known only to myself and the next day joined the Dode Fisk Great Combined Shows in Mount Vernon, Iowa. Winter quarters of this show were Wonewoc, Wis. where the season had opened May 1st. I regret I do not have the names of this entire organization for CHS members. Advertising Car No. 1 was 10 days ahead and show had an attractive line of paper. Dode Fisk was sole owner and manager. Others of the staff I recall were W.O. Tarkington, general agent; T.W. Ballenger who in later yrs. was traffic mgr. of the SPARKS CIRCUS, was assistant mgr; Mike Rooney, equestrian director; Billy Delevan boss of baggage stock; Bert Rowley drove the No. 1 band wagon 8 dapple grays and had been with Ringling Bros. Show. W.J. White was boss canvasman; Doc Coates, announcer in big show and sold concert tickets. The writer of this and Doc were with the Mighty Haag Circus 2 yrs. later Mr. & Mrs. T.E. Blush were in charge of reserve seats. The train masters name I do not know but this show moved and breakfast was over at 9:00 every morning and no one missed breakfast as the cook tent was the best. All the working men with this show were white, big powerful fellows from Minn. and Wis. We always had a full crew in all departments.

The side show or Annex, was managed by F.E. Hardee, and Mrs. Hardee, snake enchantress along with the usual side show attractions. The colored band and New Orleans Minstrels were under the direction of Chauncey Ver Valm, a very clever cornet soloist and prince of a fellow, who had seen quite a bit of minstrel experience. The big show performance was presented in 2 rings. All canvas was new at opening of season and a 4 pole big top was used. Opening with the usual grand entree to the strains of Sousa's famous march "Semper Fidelis". The clown song was "Meet me in Rosetime Rosie" sung by Boots Washburn producing clown followed by the old time leaps over elephant and horses. This show had some real leapers including Jake Hubbell and Eddie Beckman. Reels and jigs played for the leaps. The Loretta Twins, Pauline and Ora, appeared in their trampoline bar act along with a brother Harvey who did comedy in girl costume. Later this act was featured with SELLS-FLOTO CIRCUS several yrs. The Stone's did aerial loop walking and traps. Chapman and Berube, did a fine balancing perch act. Nola Satterfield was one of the menage riders, and worked trained horses. The Wallins appeared in their unparalleled contortions. Dick Williams in his comedy mule hurdle got many a laugh. Albion Sisters iron jew act and other aerial displays. Williams family 4 people acrobats and tumblers. Mike Rooney, gents principal bareback riding act, and bounding jockey act. The Casad's did their gymnastic exhibitions, extraordinary. Jack Albion, Albert Gaston, and George Weyman were among the clowns. The old style after show concert in vogue at that date was given featuring the balloon horse "JUPITER" elevated to the top of the tent and ridden by Harvey Blush.

All named above I have recalled from memory and regret if I have overlooked other performers that made up the well balanced program of the big show. The menagerie display was one big elephant "GYP" which did a good routine in ring No. 1. 2 camels, 1 zebra, 1 sacred ox, and a few cages of animals all appearing in parade. A lady in oriental costume rode in the howdah atop "GYP". The No. 1 band wagon was red and gold with carvings and mirrors, an old Ringling wagon it was said. The band uniforms also had seen service with the Ringling show. W.F. Weldon's Concert Band, of 20 musicians were with the Dode Fisk Circus and all newspaper ads mentioned the fact.

April 1946

The BANDWAGON

DODE FISK CIRCUS (CONTINUED)

Weldon was band master with Ringling Bros. 1891 to 1895. The writer of this was trombonist in Weldon's Band.

The tour took the show as far west as New Mexico and 12 towns were played including Santa Fe, and Albuquerque which proved to be 2 of the banner stands of the season. We came into Tex. from New Mexico and made an extensive tour of the Lone Star State exhibiting in 59 towns and many of those were wild looking towns back in 1910, but I enjoyed it. The YANKEE ROBINSON SHOW followed us in Sweetwater, and Snyder, Tex. We also crossed the paths of the CAMPBELL BROS. CIRCUS and the ROY E. FOX LONE STAR MINSTRELS under canvas. Those titles are but a sweet memory today to us troupers of 36 yrs. ago. We encountered some raw chilly days toward the end of the season and we did have a long season closing Dec. 14, in Brenham, Tex. It was a very pleasant season for all. This show was like one big happy family. Any one who was ever with that circus I feel sure will admit those were happy days.

The Dode Fisk Circus toured 4 seasons, 1907-08-09-10. In Jan. 1911 the equipment was sold to other interests and Dode Fisk retired from the circus business. His name will live on as another of America's circus owners. For 4 yrs. I have tried to locate a letterhead, route card, herald, photo, or litho of this circus but without success.

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ATTENTION COLLECTORS

Back copies of the BANDWAGON for the following month's may be obtained from the EDITOR at 25¢ each. Complete your collection now—Don't delay. Few of each: -Oct. 1944, Feb. 1945, Mar. 1945, Apr. 1945, Jun. 1945, Aug. 1945, Oct. 1945, Jan. 1946.

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TWO HEMISPHERE BANDWAGON NOTES

ALLEN WESCOTT has been elected Director #2 of this Div. for the next 2 yrs. SPUDPILE GAZETTE will be issued every 2 month's instead of monthly. Plans are now under way for a joint convention of this Div. with the C.M.B.O.A. & C.F.A. when R.B.B.B. play Boston this Spring.

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PARKINSON PRATTLE

FOUR new cages for the CLYDE BEATTY CIRCUS are nearing completion at Eureka, Ill. and the first 2 are to be shipped to the El Paso, Tex. quarters the first wk. in Mar. Being built at the Harvey Zimmerman welding shop, the cages have oak bodies, steel sides and gears, and the poles are fitted for use with tractors rather than draft horses. When seen the new wagons did not have seats, footboards or brakes, and evidently will not have these when they are completed. Each is 18 ft. long and has 5 compartments in it. Two wagons were almost ready for shipment. Steel trimmings were being welded on. Painting will be done at El Paso quarters. Of these 2, 1 has dual tires, 1 has single. The 3rd wagon was in the shop, and was to be moved outside and mounted on wheels. Work on the final cage will then begin. A representative of the circus was on hand actively supervising construction by a 5 man crew. This is the first circus work Zimmerman has done. The cages, which will look plenty nice but still resemble trailers more than traditional rail show wagons, will be loaded on flat cars at Bloomington, Ill. for shipment to Tex. because the strike of the TP&W leaves Eureka without a rail line.

\*\*\*\*\*  
TOM PARKINSON is now out of the Army and home at 336 Oak Crest, Decatur, Ill. J. Tracy is leading the Membership Contest with 3 new members.

## THE GREAT LONDON CIRCUS

DOCKRILL'S ARENIC AGGREGATION  
and  
SANGER'S ENGLISH MENAGERIE

## OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

SEASON OF 1877

- \*\*\*\*\*
1. GRAND ENTREE  
By the Hippodramatic Mardi-Gras Carnival and Circus Co.
  2. Boy Wonders.....Masters Freddy and Willie on the Trapeze
  3. Celebrated French Menage Horse, ELLINGTON, Trained & rode by Dockrill
  4. Champion Gymnastic Exercises  
By the Livingston Bros., J. Murtz and Victorelli Bros.
  5. Champion Somersault Bareback Rider.....FRANK MELVILLE
  6. Slack Wire.....M'lle VICTORINE  
THE IRISH CLOWN-----JOHNNY PATTERSON
  7. Leaps and Double Somersaults.....By the Company
  8. M'lle ELIZA DOCKRILL, "EMPEROR of the ARENA" in her \$10,000  
Challenge "Principal" and "FLYING HURDLE ACT."  
CLOWN-----W. CONRAD
  9. Kings of the Carpet..By Livingston Bros. Victorelli Bros. & J. Murtz
  10. The Jerome Bounding Jockey Act.....FRANK MELVILLE  
CLOWN-----CHARLES McCARTHY
  11. Pyramid of Elephants..By the only 5 full grown performing  
Elephants in the world, introduced by their trainer, G. ARSTINNSTALL
  12. Grand Trial of Skill, "PARTERRE".....By the Company
  13. M'lle ELIZA DOCKRILL, Champion Female Bare Back Rider of the World  
Riding and Driving at the same time her 4 Arabian Steeds-----  
considered the greatest and most artistic equestrian feat known.
  14. Female Gymnastic Act.....By the Lawrence Sisters
  15. Sports of Atlas on Horseback.....By WM. CONRAD
  16. Comic Musical Clowns-----VICTORELLI BROS.
  17. The Flying Velocipede Act
  18. The whole to conclude with the introducing in the ring of a den of  
Royal Bengal Tigers, in which Prof. STILL, from the Zoological Garden  
London, will enter and exhibit feats of daring never before seen.
- \*\*\*\*\*

ABOVE PROGRAMME THRU THE COURTESY OF .....J. BROWN

April 1946

The BANDWAGON

Executive Staff FOREPAUGH-SELLS 1898  
Third Annual Tour, opened Columbus, Ohio, Apr. 25, closed Danville, Va.

JAMES A. BAILEY	-Owner	W. W. COLE	-Owner
LEWIS SELLS	-Manager	PETER SELLS	-Agent
ALLEN SELLS	-Sup't	T. L. EVANS	-Rep.
F. DeWOLF	-Asst. to Evans	H. H. THORP	-Treasurer
C. SEELEY	-Asst. Mgr.	F. C. MILLER	-Press Agent
J. LUKE	-Purchasing Agent	T. H. McINTYRE	-Side Show Mgr.
J. MURRAY	-Privilege	J. F. BOYLE	-Gen. Press Agent
C. A. DAVIS	-Press	S. H. BARRETT	-Mgr. #1 Car
F. W. BUSEY	-Mgr. #2 Car	H. A. MANN	-Mgr. #3 Car
W. K. PECK	-Contract Agent	J. B. ALLEN	
S. FIELDER	-24 hr. man	O. H. NORMAN	
F. MELVILLE	-Equestrian Dir.	W. GORMAN	-Asst.
W. MERRICK	-Musical Dir.	F. S. THOMPSON	-Privileges
J. SHUMATE	-Sup't of Stock	P. HEINTZ	-Transportation
W. CHAMBERS	-Sup't of Animals	P. LEAGHER	-Sup't of elephants
W. BADGER	-Asst.	DOC TWIGG	-Props
J. B. HUNT	-Canvas	T. DUNNN	-Lights
J. WILKINS	-Cook House	T. DAVIS	-Head Waiter
W. DELL	-Wardrobe	E. EVANS	-Trappings
J. F. MAHER		E. KELLY	-Harness Maker
NEDDEMEYER		T. B. McINTYRE	-Announcer
H. B. HOPKINS		C. BELL	-Candy Stand
F. C. FOLEY		S. DAWSON	

During this season 25 were hurt and 2 killed in a blowdown at Sioux City. Show closed Nov. 24. Sent in by CHAS. CURTISS of SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

CIRQUE NATIONAL SUISSE des FRERES KNIE  
SCHWEITZER NATIONAL CIRCUS GEBRUDER KNIE  
KNIE BROS. NATIONAL SWISS CIRCUS

Excellent set of 20 photos, Circus Knie at Geneva, Switzerland, 1945. Only \$2.00 or Trade. Size 3x4.

CIRCUSY-Every CHS fan will want this Swiss Rail Show that has 11 bills hippe, cages, etc. included in this collection. Complete coverage. Data Sheet with each order or inquiry.

TOM PARKINSON

336 Oak Crest, Decatur, Ill.

WANTED

Pictures	of	old	time	Side	Show	Banners
Miniature	animals	by	Elastolin,	the	the	kind
made	Europe	prior	to	the	war.	Write
in	you	have	have	to	to	offer.
what						

W. F. WHITE  
PORTLAND

1249 Forest Ave.  
MAINE

8x10 photo of BARNUM & BAILEY parade in Frankfurt, Germany-----50¢  
post card size building in which BARNUM & BAILEY showed in Paris,  
France. Nov. 30, 1901 to Mar. 23, 1902-----25¢  
post card size "FRITZ" the elephant with BARNUM & BAILEY, strangled in  
a park in Tours, France, June 11, 1902-----25¢  
JAKE POSEY 549 N Maine Ave. Baldwin Park Calif.  
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## BOB TABER TALES of CIRCUS ADVERTISING

A 20 trained elephant Circus is coming to Ft. Dodge, Iowa with the world famous, the best, the largest and only Great Forepaugh Show. It will exhibit afternoon and evening Wed. July 13, 1881. They advertised 2 rings with different performances in each. A diagram of the 2 main tents were featured in their newspaper advertising. This showed 2 rings with a space marked orchestra between. The menagerie tent was pictured as having an arrangement for an elephant herd on 1 end, educated horses, ponies and camels on the other with giraffe and trained animals in the center. The public promenade was named Zoological Ave. One newspaper said- Now on its 17th Annual Tour. This show has never divided or changed its name or ownership, every yr. it receives new and novel features. 17 yrs. of constant additions represent what would constitute 20 of the other largest shows travelling. Forepaugh has more men, horses, canvas, cars, rings, performers, animals and make a more costly and grander parade than any show that has or will come here this season. It has the largest menagerie, more trained wild beasts and world fair gathering of the earth's living wonders. This is the only colossal double circus co. All Europe has been swept of its attractions. Just added 22 trained reason gifted stallions. Everything fresh for this season. Millions expended for a single holiday.

Elephants for a number of seasons were strongly advertised in advance of the coming of the Forepaugh Show. This yr. they claimed, the new world wonder 20 huge performing elephants. A. Forepaugh exhibits more elephants than any person in the civilized world. Other features included the pageant ROOKH'S D'PARTURE from DELHI; ZUILA, female Blondin who at every show will appear in her astounding act of wheeling her baby across a  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch wire stretched 100 ft. in midair; first appearance here of the Old World's latest sensation THE GREAT SELBINI & VILLION TROUPE of gymnastic bicyclers. They turn somersaults from shoulder to shoulder, stand erect upon each other's heads 3 resting on the wheelman. Two, 3 & 4 form pyramids and engage in juggling and all manner of surprising acts, all done up on bicycles dashing around at a 20 mile speed; LOYAL, the man meteor, blown from a cannon; only trained giraffes, performing lions, tigers, animal behemoth, unicorn, sea lions, a wilderness of rare animals and birds. Both giant and dwarf from every nation in Europe represented. 100 man like apes and baboons in separate tents offer separate shows. The Great Forepaugh Show never has and never will divide. Every man, woman and child who has seen the great show knows this fact. Wait for the great show coming here. You will see the greatest and grandest pageant, the beautiful Oriental romance of Lalla Rookh now produced for the first time in America. For appearing in this pageant during the season she receives the sum of \$10,000 in consideration of her everywhere being acknowledged the loveliest lady in the land. For this marvelous, moving panorama of beauty, wealth and grandeur \$200,000 has been spent.

CAUTION to the public. Pay no attention to the bills and programs of would be rivals, BEWARE of announcements of shows without a positive date. The Great Forepaugh Show always gives its sure and positive date.

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## NEW MEMBERS

#249	ED J. DOYLE	808 Louisiana St.	Little Rock	Ark.
#250	S. McGinnis	R.F.D.2 Box 163	Marengo	Ill.
#251	D. Strait	20 Willow St.	Sidney	N.Y.
#252	T. Bowman	2105 Rio Grande	Austin	Tex.
#253	Ed J. Donewirth	621 N. Forest Road	Williamsville	N.Y.
#254	B. M. Shevlin	46 Manhattan Ave.	Buffalo	N.Y.

APRIL 1946

## The BANDWAGON

BACK ROOM GOSSIP  
by Van Pool

W.H.Woodcock known as Bill to the boys has signed to go with Cole Bros. Circus for the 1946 season. Many of Cole Bros. old timers have went over to King Bros. for this year. Cole opens April 18th. Cole Bros. will use the America wagon this year as a calliope and will also make a tour thru Canada and will follow R.B.B.B. into Detroit.

King Bros. opens Apr. 12th and Stevens Bros. opens April 27th.

Sparks Circus will play Hagerstown, Md. second week of May and have hired Mullins to play calliope.

R.B.B.B. will day and date Barnes in Detroit this year.

FIVE PAGE DESCRIPTIVE PHOTO LIST

SPARKS----ROBINSON----Christy----HAGENBECK-WALLACE----BARNES----  
Ringling Bros. & Barnum & Bailey----Cole Bros.----Ringling Bros. parade  
SELLS-FLOTO & BUFFALO BILL                    Many other photos are also listed.

Send 10¢ for list and a sample photo not listed on this list.

WALTER W.TYSON      27 Green St.      Guelph,Ont.      Canada.  
Please send all money(which is \$1 each)for membership buttons to the  
Sec.J.J.Crowley.Don't fail to get this dandy BANDWAGON pin.Send now.  
ROBERT E.(UNCLE BOB)SHERWOOD,81,publisher,book dealer and circus clown  
first with the DAN RICE CIRCUS in 1867 and later with P.T.BARNUM,died  
Sat.Mar.9th.He established a N.Y.publishing house in the early 1890s.

Arthur Wirtz purchased the controlling interest in the TERRELL JACOBS animal act, which will become part of his Barnes circus.

At one time there was an 8 horse driver on the R.B.B.B.Circus who was a millionair. His name was Jim Colgate, his father was Pres. of the Colgate Co. Every month Jim would receive his royalty check from Colgate. Jim would not do a thing but drive this most beautiful 8 horse team, he would make just one trip to the lot and one back at night. He did not drink or smoke but spent his time working on his favorite 8 horses. He was a husky fellow and wore a big brimmed Stetson hat of the Tim McCoy type. (Sent in by F. Kindler and vouched for by C. Hathaway 1 time mgr. of R.B.B.B.CIRCUS)

WALTER L. MAIN WRECK(ITHACA JOURNAL MAY 29,1893)by F.M.Farrell  
WALTER L. MAINS CIRCUSS billed to appear in Ithaca,N.Y.June 13 met with a serious accident near Tyrone,Pa.The engineer lost control of train going down the mt.and it jumped the track at 40 miles an hr.throwing 14 cars over a 30 ft.bank.5 persons were killed and most of the animals badly hurt.Several tigers and lions made their escape.1 tiger killed several domestic animals including a cow that was being milked near by.(June 2)A black panther and silver tiger,from Mains Circus wrecked at Tyrone,Pa.this wk.are still at large.The Circus has postponed its June 13 booking in Ithaca until later in the mo.47 horses were buried Wed. including the \$11,000 trick horse SNOWFLAKE.The escaped lioness was captured several miles from the scene, but fought so hard she had to be killed.(June 27)2 wks.after the accident of the Walter L.Main Circus the bill car of the W.L.Main Circus came and rebilled Ithaca, and on June 27 the W.L.Main Circus played Ithaca,2 wks.after the regular date.

APRIL 1946

## The BANDWAGON

CLYDE BROS. CIRCUS  
(bette leonard)

Mr. & Mrs. Leonard drove to Hutchinson, Kan. on Mar. 23, and caught the CLYDI BROS. CIRCUS. The show has been out since early in Nov. and played steady with the exception of a 4 wk. lay off during Xmas holidays. They played naval bases, Army camps, schools and theatres. Howard Suesz is Owner and Mgr. Gus Kanerva, Legal Adj; James Armstrong (CHS) Sup't of Transp; Al Weir, Prop. and Harrison Union Rep. A 9 piece band, under the auspices of the Hutchinson Police was used. Jimmy Armstrong acted as M.C. and also sang, singing 2 songs to prolonged applause. The 4 Millers from Springfield, Mo. did a high class tumbling act, last season they were with Bailey Bros. Bill Miller also performs a remarkable exhibition of foot juggling and barrel kicking. Harrisons trick bicycle riders perform in center ring. L. Weir and J. M. Snyder did trapeze and web. Art Henry had 6 grey beige ponies who performed with fine adeptness and L. Albrights ponies and dogs were high lights of the show. Show closes Apr. 10. J. Armstrong will join R. B. B. B. in clown alley after he closes with Clyde Bros.

The photo that you received with this issue comes to you thru the kindness of W.F.WHITE.

COVER

The wagon on this month's cover is the "AMERICA" wagon and is being used by COLE BROS. this season as a calliope. This famous old wagon also represents Div. 6 of the C.H.S.

CLYDE BEATTY WALLACE BROS. CIRCUS PROGRAM(LINCOLN,ILL.JULY 10 1943)  
(by PARKERSON)



## SPRING SPECIAL

2 (5x7) photos of the big lipped U bangi's (male and female)-----50¢  
These photos were special posed. New photo list also included free.

RUTH VAN MATRE 3328 H St.

Phila, Pa.

